



Cúram Sláinte  
Phobail, Iarthar  
ag freastal ar Ghailimh,  
Maighed agus Ros Comáin

Community  
Healthcare West  
serving Galway, Mayo  
and Roscommon

Ceannasaí um Chúram Sláinte

An Sean Ionad Sláinte, Sráid an Bhiocáire, Tuaim, Co. na  
Gaillimhe

T: 093 37933 / 091 775923 R: [social.carecho2@hse.ie](mailto:social.carecho2@hse.ie)

Head of Social Care

Old Health Centre, Vicar St., Tuam, Co. Galway.

Tel: 093 37933 / 091 775923 Email: [social.carecho2@hse.ie](mailto:social.carecho2@hse.ie)

(093) 37951

Eugene Murphy, T.D.,  
Dail Eireann,  
Leinster House,  
Dublin 2.

5<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

**PQ 27217/19**

**'To ask the Minister for Health the number of occupational therapists assigned to school age services in County Roscommon; the number of children on the waiting list for occupational therapy with the school age services to date; the average waiting time for children to access occupational therapy with the services in the county and if he will make a statement on the matter'.**

Dear Deputy Murphy,

I refer to PQ 27217/19 uploaded on the PAD System on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and due for response on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2019 regarding representations that you have made to the Minister for Health concerning 'the number of occupational therapists assigned to school age services in County Roscommon; the number of children on the waiting list for occupational therapy with the school age services to date; the average waiting time for children to access occupational therapy with the services in the county and if he will make a statement on the matter'. The HSE has been requested to reply directly to you on this matter. The following response outlines the position.

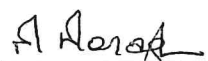
At present there are 1.94 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) Occupational Therapists assigned to Roscommon school age services. Unfortunately, 1 WTE post has become vacant since January 2019. Due to the current recruitment moratorium that is in place within the HSE this post cannot be filled at this time. One additional Occupational Therapist post has been approved in 2019 for Roscommon to address the Assessment of Need backlog and the recruitment process for this post has commenced.

Currently there are 150 children waitlisted for Occupational Therapy services in Co. Roscommon. Waiting times for children to access Occupational Therapy are between 3 and 36 months depending on need. Waiting lists are prioritised firstly on a needs basis and secondly in chronological order.

Please note that additional supports can only be provided within the current budget and resources allocated to HSE Community Healthcare West.

I trust that this response has clarified the matter that you have raised in this instance.

Yours sincerely,

  
John Fitzmaurice,  
General Manager,  
Community Healthcare West.